



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 072982/0202

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Applicant: Masajiro FUKUNAGA et al.
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION
Serial No.: 09/606,404
Filed: June 29, 2000
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: 2151

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is believed to be filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits (first scenario). If that is not the case, such as in a second scenario in which a first Office Action on the merits has been mailed before the filing of the instant Information Disclosure Statement, then either a certification or fee is required, and a certification is provided below. If neither of the first or second scenarios is the case, such as if a final Office Action or a notice of allowance has been mailed by the PTO (third scenario), then both a certification and fee are required, and in that case a certification is provided below and also the PTO is authorized to obtain the necessary fee to have the instant IDS considered, from Foley & Lardner Deposit Account #19-0741.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) that items of information A2, A3 and A4 listed on the PTO/SB/08 form included with this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement. Item of information A1 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 form is a U.S. patent that is a counterpart to item of information A2.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

A translation of a portion of a Japanese Office Action that issued August 13, 2002 with respect to a counterpart Japanese patent application is provided below.

Prior art literature 1

Sasaki, Motoya and Kawai, Yasuhiro

"Reconciling convenience and security — Toward a Single Sign-on; Part 2; The path to a solution: Aggregation and management of user information as the first step to single sign-on."

Nikkei Internet Technology, Nikkei Business Publications, Inc., 22 February 1999, No. 20, p. 82 – p. 89.

Prior art literature 2

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H8-329010

Remarks

In a system wherein local computers (clients) are connected to remote computers (servers) by a communication network, the art of providing a database which stores pre-registered user authentication information and corresponding passwords, and an authentication proxy server which receives transmitted user authentication information, uses it as a key to search the database, reads out the corresponding password and returns it to the local computer, whereby the local computer transmits user authentication information to said authentication proxy server and transmits the returned corresponding password to the remote computer, is well known, as described for instance in prior art literature 1, page 83 right column to page 84 middle column, and page 85, Figure 2 under "Access Master." The use of fingerprints or other physical features of the user as the user authentication information transmitted from a local computer for determination of access privileges is also well known, as per the art described for instance in prior art literature 2. Thus, adopting the constitution whereby a user's physical features are used as the user authentication information transmitted from the client in the art of said prior art literature 1 to obtain the inventions as per claims 1 through 6 of the present application is a matter that could be easily conceived of by a person skilled in the art.

Record of prior art literature search results

Fields searched - IPC 7th Edition G06F15/00
DB name

Prior art literatures

A. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-240691

This record of prior art literature search results does not constitute a reason for rejection."

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese Office Action are based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. These statements should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, what is asserted in the Japanese Office Action.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,

October 9, 2002
Date

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